

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are all the claims pending in the application.

The Advisory Action indicates that the Response filed on June 8, 2006, has been considered, but the Examiner asserts that it does not place the application in condition for allowance. Applicant's applicable comments provided in the June 8, 2006 Response are incorporated herein by reference.

In the Advisory Action, the Examiner contends that Johnson et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,977,654) suggests that "the operation of steering wheel locks are recognized in the vehicle lock system (col. 1 lines 29-31)." However, Applicant urges the Examiner to appreciate that Johnson merely discloses "different types of anti-theft systems include steering wheel locks." The type of lock is not disclosed nor is any method or device for activating the steering wheel lock.

In regard to Mochida (U.S. Pat. No. 4,761,645), the Examiner asserts that "Mochida discloses a portable transmittal adapter to transmit a unique code for operating a steering lock actuator between the locking and unlocking state." It is respectfully noted that the Examiner's position is not accurate. Instead, Mochida discloses a keyless entry system used for doors and a trunk, but not the steering lock system itself. In other words, Mochida discloses a configuration that may trigger a steering lock, but not through the use of the portable transmitter. Thus, the steering wheel lock is Mochida is activated by a condition separate from a code transmitted by a portable transmitter, and the steering wheel lock is therefore not operated by the code that is transmitted in Mochida.

Mochida does not teach that its applied features are directly responsible for releasing the steering wheel. To expedite prosecution, Applicant amends claim 1 to recite that the "steering

wheel for the vehicle is released when the activation unit receives the first ID code.” The ID code of Mochida is not directly responsible for releasing a locked state of a steering wheel, but instead, the steering wheel of Mochida is locked/unlocked when: 1) a particular operation is carried out (e.g., a door being closed and locked); and 2) a particular steering lock condition is satisfied. (See Abstract of Mochida.) Applicant also submits that Johnson does not disclose a steering wheel lock system that is activated by a remote activation unit. In conclusion, the unique combination of each element recited in claim 1 is not taught nor suggested by the art. The combination of features found in the dependent claims are also not taught nor suggested by the art, due to their unique individual recitations.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel V. Williams
Registration No. 45,221

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: August 8, 2006